

A
P A P E R

Delivered in by

Dr. *Alston.* \S Dr. *Bates.*
Dr. *Hamens* \S Dr. *Micklethwait.*

ON
Monday the 16. of *October*, 1648:
to the Honorable Committee

FOR
Bathes and Bath-Stoves.
FROM
The Colledge of Physitians in *London.*
TOGETHER,
With an Answer thereunto.

By *Peter Chamberlen:* Dr. in Physick,
and Fell. of the said Colledge.

LONDON, Printed in the year 1648.

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P A P E R

Presented in the
of the
Dr. [illegible]
Dr. [illegible]

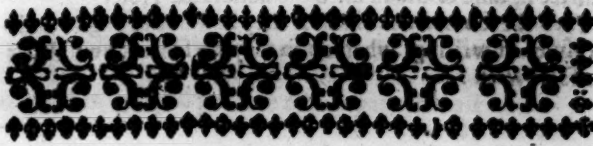
At the [illegible] of October 1848
to the Honorable [illegible]



Read and [illegible]
The College of [illegible]
With an [illegible] [illegible]

By [illegible] Dean of the [illegible]
and [illegible] of the [illegible]

10 [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]



*The Committee being set the third
time in expectation of what Ob-
jections the Colledge would offer
against the Ordinance for publike
artificiall Bathes, & Bath-Stoves,
or whether they would approve of
them.*

Dr. Alston began as followeth, in these or the like words
and Phrases.



He Colledge commanded me to return
humble thanks to the Honorable Com-
mittee for not giving consent to the
Ordinance of Bathes, without them.
(Then he proceeded) Having the fear
of God before our eyes, and the good
of the Common-wealth, The Col-
ledge do by us return this Answer to the Honorable
Committee, that they do not think fit the erecting of
publike Bathes should be granted to Dr. *Chamberlen*, and
they think them hurtfull to the Common-wealth.

And the Colledg desires that this honourable Committee signifie so much unto the honorable H^{ouse}.

Then the Committee asked if they had not brought their Answer in writing, whereupon they presented their Paper as followeth :

*To the Honourable , the Committee
for Bathes.*

THe President and Colledge of Physitians return their humble thanks to this Honourable Committee for your favour unto them, and humbly represent that since the Honourable Committee is pleased to resolve not to enjoin Dr. *Chamberlen* to attend the Colledge concerning his Design of *Bathes*, they can give no satisfactory Answer therein, Onely whereas publike Bathes have been by their abuse, the Causes in the *Greek* and *Roman* States, (where there was greater necessity, and lesse danger of them then in our cold clyme) of so much Physicall prejudice, effeminating bodies, and procuring infirmities, and morall in debauching the manners of the people, that in either of them upon the coming of the Christians into power, they were demolished or converted into other uses ; And whereas for private use there are in the houses of divers persons of this Kingdom, Cradles, Tubbs, Boxes, Chayres, Bathes, and Bathing Stoves, in which by the help of Fumes, Vapors, water, Oyle, &c. according to the prescription of Physitians, sweat may be procured, payne asswaged, and all necessary ends of bathing attained. The President and Colledge are so confident of, and presume so much upon the wisdom and justice of this honourable Committee, & the two Houses of Parliament, that they believe, if that it shall please them to empower the said Dr. *Chamberlen* by any Ordinances for re
rection

rection of publike Bathes, they will so regulate his design, make such provision, and take such caution from him, that none of the afore-mentioned inconveniences shall follow. And that they will neither infringe the just liberty of the Subject, nor abridge other Physitions in the choyce of their instruments, or legall practise of any part of their Art.

*Fran. Prætan Collegii Medicorum:
Londinensium Registrarius.*

This is a true Copy. Lco. C^{py}.

*To the honorable Committe for Bathes,
The humble Answer of Peter
Chamberlen, Doctor in Physick,
and Fellow of the Colledge of Physi-
tians in London; to a Paper deli-
vered to the honorable Committe, by
Dr. Alston, Dr. Hameus, Doct.
Bates, and Dr. Micklethwait, from
the President, and others of the said
Colledge.*

*In humble obedience to Command of this Honourable
Committee, & in Answer to the Colledg Paper.*

IN the first place, I say, I willingly passe by all per-
sonal aymes, be it in the mention of my not atten-
dance, (which they are cause of) or in their grand
Caveats enjoyed by them on this honourable
Committee, and the two Houses of Parliament,
upon.

upon their Wisdoms and Justice, If they shall empower mee, &c. or in their many arguments of Abuse to prevent that IF. And am resolved (as God shall enable me) to swallow all private reproach and scorn, that runs not too much on the publick score.

Secondly, concerning the Matter it self, I humbly answer, that the Colledg have quite mistaken it; for I presented only the Use of Publick Bathes, and they meddle only with the Abuse of them. Alas, who knows not, that the Abuse of wine causeth drunkenness; the abuse of women, whoredome; the abuse of meats, gluttony; and the abuse of Physick, poyson?

Thirdly, I fear they have too much forsaken the Authors of our own Faculty, to side with Poets and the superstitious beginnings of Antichrist, in the aggravations of those Abuses.

Fourthly, I doubt whether they have not mistaken the jealous zeal of those Religious Fathers that writ against them; for the insulting Barbarismes of the *Goths* and *Vandals*, and other conquering Nations, in demolishing those stately Buildings. And whether the self-same writings may not more, or as fitly be applyed unto the private Houses, and those Accommodations mentioned in the Paper, Yea, to the Excellent and Famous Bathes of *Somersetshire*.

Fifthly, I perceive they consulted not well with Travellers, when they affirm them all demolished, or converted to other uses in the Grecian and Roman Empires. For the truth is, that many of them being demolished, Lesser Purples, Power, and Leisure, have not been able to contend in State with the Treasure and Sovereignty of the whole world, which those Emperours had that built them.

Sixthly, I doubt whether it be not a fundamental Heresie in Physick, to necessitate hot Remedies (as Bathes) for hot Countries, and proclaim them dangerous in cold Clymes, notwithstanding the daily Experience in *Germany*,

ny, Poland, Denmark, & Muscovia, to the contrary. And the Great Canon of Physick, *contraria contrariis curantur*,

Seventhly, I do verily believe, and dare adventure my Life and Estate upon it, that I can (by Gods blessing) more safely, certainly, suddenly, and with more Ease, cure many (if not all curable) diseases with them, then all our Colledge; yea, then All Physicians in the world can do without them. Yea, such diseases as without them are wholly desperate and deadly.

Eighthly, In Answer to some tacit Jealousies, I do not do this purposely to diminish the Practise of Physicians, but verily suppose there may be a way propounded in them, both advantagious to them & the Common-wealth.

Ninthly, I do not endeavour to engrosse them to my self; but have from the beginning, and do still humbly offer it unto the State, or any whom they shall appoint; wherein (if I do not) I verily believe that Dr. *Grent* will be the best able to serve them.

Lastly, I professe before God and men, that I believe the due use of them in all convenient places, may save above 10000 Lives a year. And that in faithfulness to Almighty God, and my native Country, I have endeavoured this service; from the which, if the honourable Parliament or Committee can discharge me before the Great Judge, I shall give most humble thanks to God and Them, rejoycing to have so escaped the incensed Spirits of so many learned men, as now oppose me.

F f N f S.

to many learned men, as now speaks me.
I am rejoicing to have, I should think, a
Sabbath, I shall give most humble thanks, and
salute of comfort can distinguish me but the
world's distresses; from the which if the terrible
Almighty God, and my native Country, I may expect
above two or three years. And that is testimony to
be due me of them in all convenient places may take
I pray, I praise, thank God, and thank the Father
of the best and best Government.